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DE RUEHBO #4352 3441629
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FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 5969
INFO RUCPDOC/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHDC
RUEHRC/DEPT OF AGRICULTURE WASHDC

UNCLAS BOGOTA 004352

SIPDIS SENSITIVE

FOR OES/ENRC MARK JOHNSEN

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: <u>SENV</u> <u>EAID</u> <u>EAGR</u> <u>ETRD</u> <u>EINV</u> <u>BTIO</u>

SUBJECT: COLOMBIA: DEMARCHE ON IMPLEMENTATION OF AMENDED

LACEY ACT

REF: STATE 126654

(SBU) On December 3 Econoff and FAS Attache delivered copies of reftel diplomatic note and points to Patricia Cortes, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Director of North American Affairs, Colombian Agriculture & Fishing Institute Director General Andres Fernandez, Ministry of Trade Senior Advisor Santiago Ospina, and Ministry of Environment International Affairs Advisor Nasbly Neira Castano. Econoff explained the background and purpose of the Lacey Act, and reiterated USG support for the December 15, 2008 amendment. The GOC officials acknowledged receipt of the points, but had no substantive response at this time.